

1-1 By: Alvarado, et al. H.B. No. 108
 1-2 (Senate Sponsor - Taylor of Galveston)
 1-3 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 12, 2017;
 1-4 May 12, 2017, read first time and referred to Committee on Natural
 1-5 Resources & Economic Development; May 21, 2017, reported favorably
 1-6 by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 1; May 21, 2017, sent to
 1-7 printer.)

1-8 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-9				
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12		X		
1-13	X			
1-14			X	
1-15	X			
1-16	X			
1-17	X			
1-18	X			
1-19	X			
1-20	X			

1-21 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-22 AN ACT

1-23 relating to the use of the skills development fund to facilitate the
 1-24 relocation to or expansion in this state of employers offering
 1-25 complex or high-skilled employment opportunities.

1-26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-27 SECTION 1. Chapter 303, Labor Code, is amended by adding
 1-28 Section 303.0031 to read as follows:

1-29 Sec. 303.0031. USE OF SKILLS DEVELOPMENT FUND TO RECRUIT
 1-30 CERTAIN EMPLOYERS. (a) In this section, "public junior college"
 1-31 and "public technical institute" have the meanings assigned by
 1-32 Section 61.003, Education Code.

1-33 (b) In addition to the purposes described by Section
 1-34 303.001, the commission may use the skills development fund to
 1-35 provide an intensive and rapid response to, and support services
 1-36 for, employers expanding in or relocating their operations to this
 1-37 state, with a focus on recruiting employers who will provide
 1-38 complex or high-skilled employment opportunities in this state.

1-39 (c) The commission may use funds available for the purpose
 1-40 of this section to:

1-41 (1) provide leadership and direction to, and linkage
 1-42 among, out-of-state employers, economic development organizations,
 1-43 local workforce development boards, public junior colleges, and
 1-44 public technical institutes to address the employers' needs for
 1-45 recruitment and hiring for complex or high-skilled employment
 1-46 positions as necessary to facilitate employers' relocation to or
 1-47 expansion of operations in this state; and

1-48 (2) award grants to a public junior college or public
 1-49 technical institute providing workforce training and related
 1-50 support services to employers who commit to establishing a place of
 1-51 business in this state.

1-52 (d) A grant awarded under this section may be used only for:

1-53 (1) developing:

1-54 (A) customized workforce training programs for
 1-55 an employer's specific business needs;

1-56 (B) fast-track curriculum;

1-57 (C) workforce training-related support services
 1-58 for employers; or

1-59 (D) instructor certification necessary to
 1-60 provide workforce training; and

1-61 (2) acquiring training equipment necessary for

2-1 instructor certification and employment.

2-2 (e) The executive director, or a person appointed by the
2-3 executive director who is knowledgeable in the administration of
2-4 grants, is responsible for the distribution of grant money under
2-5 this section.

2-6 (f) The commission may solicit and accept gifts, grants, and
2-7 donations from any public or private source for the purpose of this
2-8 section.

2-9 (g) The commission may require, as a condition of receiving
2-10 money under this section, that a recipient agree to repay the amount
2-11 received and any related interest if the commission determines that
2-12 the money was not used for the purposes for which the money was
2-13 awarded.

2-14 (h) Money may not be used under this section to pay any
2-15 training costs or other related costs of an employer to relocate the
2-16 employer's worksite from one location in this state to another
2-17 location in this state.

2-18 (i) The commission may adopt rules as necessary to implement
2-19 this section.

2-20 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

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